

## Miscellany.

## THE SAVIOUR'S INVITATION.

[Written for the CALEDONIAN.]

Hear the message of the Master,  
Hear his loving voice entreat,  
"Come ye weary, heavy laden,  
Drop your burdens at my feet."

I will bear your troubles with you,  
I will smooth life's rugged way,  
Shield you in the fiercest conflict,  
Turn all darkness into day.

If you walk the path of duty  
I will journey by your side,  
Strengthen in the time of weakness,  
Evermore with you abide.

In the hour of pain and anguish  
Healing balm I will bestow,  
When your loved are taken from you  
I will comfort in your woe.

When you pass cold Jordan's river,  
I will lighten all the gloom;  
And disperse with heavenly radiance  
All the shadows of the tomb.

When you stand at God's tribunal  
I your advocate will be,  
And the blood of Calvary's mountain,  
Fully will avail for thee."

—[Sidney H. Hatch.

## LETTER FROM DR. GRAVES.

Reminiscences of a Visit to St. Johnsbury—A New Year's Reception to the Newsboys.

[Correspondence of the CALEDONIAN.]

The compliments of the season to the old, staid, and up-to-times CALEDONIAN; and to the diminishing few of my boyhood friends, who may yet be among its readers;—who, the fewer they grow the dearer they become.

The most pleasant, and in some respects the most satisfactory visit to St. Johnsbury, for many a year, has been the recent one in October last; the first October I have spent in Vermont, in more than half a century. The beautiful weather, the autumnal colors on forest, and upland, and mountain, were a perpetual delight; my own vigorous health and so the long rambles I could take,—to wander at one's sweet will;—with no one to hurry or call me to account, no bell to summon me to duty;—and the many delightful drives on which I was taken and the memories they recalled, like echos from the past; these with friendly greetings on every hand, filled my cup, which indeed is still overflowing. The one minor chord in all this music of soul was a conviction which seemed to haunt me, that this was my last visit! For all the greetings and kind words spoken, and tender leave-takings, I thank you, old friends, from my heart.

When I left St. Johnsbury, the sky was over cast with clouds, which settled gloomily down as we proceeded. At Windsor, Ascutney, the first mountain I ever climbed, and which ever since has seemed very dear to me, was a blank; at Bellow's Fall the rain came down in torrents, and continued well on to night.

A brief visit with friends in Troy, N. Y., where Mrs. Graves joined, and in due time we reached this city, where I first located as pastor, just twenty-five years ago; and which henceforth, it now seems to be my future abode.

New York, as we passed through its breadth, was at fever heat, it being the eve of election. When we reached Michigan everybody was smiling, nay, on a broad grin. Even the democrats were mildly hilarious over the election of the since noted Donavan;—the one sole Democrat in the lower House of our legislature. The democratic party in the House will henceforth act together. It only the present congress could have followed the wise, praise worthy and patriotic example which will be set in Michigan, what a record of statesmanship might it not have made for the guidance of coming congresses? What an example of devotion to principle, to party allegiance, would it have been, to have sunk all petty peculiarities and rivalries, and in the concord of a high, unselfish devotion to duty and country, to posterity and the race at large, to have cast on every roll-call a vote absolutely unanimous and harmonious! Ecce Donavan! Such a party will conquer respect, and inspire fear. "Ab uno disce omnes."

We are having a delightful winter here; a flurry of snow now and then, which keeps the ground white but has given us as yet no sleighing.

On New Year's day occurred a very unique and enjoyable event, and as sensible and beneficent as it was enjoyable; viz. a public dinner given by the citizens at large to the newsboys of the city.

About 1500 boys were on parade at 11 o'clock, along our principal streets, with bands and banner, conducted by our city officials.

At 12 o'clock they filed into our large city hall; the galleries of which were packed by our citizens, male and female. 150 tables had been prepared, and when the joyous bedlam of surprise and delight had been quitted and all were seated, one of their number was called to the platform, and offered a very appropriate grace.

Then about 150 of our leading citizens, among whom were members of the city council, presidents of banks, and of our leading corporations, doctors, lawyers, merchants, arrayed in white aprons, marched down from the platform as waiters, 500 turkeys and all other good things to match were in readiness. With all due ob-

sequiousness and dispatch the waiters performed their part, taking in good humor the sallies of wit which sometimes rained upon them; a score of whom could have given every boy a bank check for \$100, and not have felt it!

To quote from one of the morning papers:—"The boys were all there, and each one had with him his mouth and a stomach of a capacity not exceeded by a thousand-bushel grain elevator, and a pair of lungs which would have stilled forever the prize two hundred horse power steam caliope, had there been a test of strength; and they were happier than the wise men two thousand years ago, when they had followed the star to its destination. Their tongues were looser than a pair of Turkish trousers, their jaws were set on pivots and worked both ways, the effect of each stroke being manifested by the rapid disappearance of enough rations to have fed a regiment on the march half way thro' Georgia."

This is the eighth and most gratifying event of the kind, which has now become an institution in our city; an example worthy of emulation by all the cities in our land. It is practical Christianity. A loaf of bread is sometimes better than the gift of a Bible. It has often been a John Baptist which has led one to Christ. Our Lord often cut his way to the heart and conscience, to the spiritual wants of men through their bodily necessities.

Fifteen hundred newsboys, even though some may have been "invited guests!" What a newsy city this shows Grand Rapids to have become, and the secret of it is—this is my private opinion—is that so many of the fathers and mothers of Michigan and of our bordering city were of New England birth and brains; and that their children, even to the third and fourth generation, are, as a friend of mine once defined a Westerner, "A Yankee enlarged."

Just twenty-five years ago I came to this city. It numbered then about 16000 inhabitants. Its main street along the river was passable full three months of the year at risk of miring every team which had the hardihood to attempt the passage. It was then the liveliest city I had ever seen. Today we claim 80,000, with as fine a show of streets, business blocks and palatial private residences as any city of its size in the Union can boast.

Come out here, some of you dear old readers of the CALEDONIAN, before you die, and see what your boys and their boys and girls have done and are likely to do. Come, it will add to the length and very much to the breadth of your life.

S. GRAVES.

Grand Rapids, Mich.,

Jan. 2, 1895.

## A NEW INDUSTRY.

[Written for the CALEDONIAN.]

What will not Yankee ingenuity find out? We have heard of "bone meal" and shells ground up "to make hens lay." But the whole is beaten by "Poultry Grit." On arriving in Warren, N. H., we saw a new sign, "The Mica Crystal Co." As we are interested in minerals we investigated. About 20 rods from the railroad station we found on the hill a miserable stone quarry of black mica (Biotite) and quartz. There is more mica than quartz. An enterprising company pay \$500 annually for this quarry, five times more than it is worth for the same kind of stone can be found in many places. The stone is brittle and will take no polish, always having a rough edge. In this consists its value. The machines grind the stone into coarse grit and pass it over wire sieves. The result is rounded pebbles from a small bullet in size to the finest shot. It is packed in bags and sold as poultry grit, the coarsest for geese and turkeys, the medium for ducks and hens and the finer for chickens and canary birds. This wonderfully aids digestion, especially in winter. Hundreds of tons are prepared and sold to go to all parts of the country. This is not all. The grinding makes a fine stone dust which floats in the air and then settles on the floor and is gathered up and sold as "Moosilauke Polishing Powder" and tooth powder. There is no acid in it and nothing that injures the teeth or the most delicate surface. This is more profitable than an ordinary gold mine.

C. F. MORSE.

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I have been troubled since childhood with this disease and last summer a sore gathered on the side of my nose close up to my eye and later broke open. For

## Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

more than three months it was a running sore and when at last I managed to get it healed up that side of my head was better than the front of my nose has been since. H. W. SMITH, Hull's Cove, Me.

HOOD'S PILLS cure all Liver Ills, Biliousness, constipation, sick headache, indigestion.

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I have discussed the merits of Paine's celery compound with some of my friends, and I am informed that they have been cured by it of indigestion, rheumatism, and kidney trouble. I know of no medicine so thoroughly entitled to the confidence of debilitated people, and I am not surprised to learn that the compound is a household remedy in every part of our country.

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(General) JOHN A. HALDERMAN.

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